Claims

What is claimed is:

1   1. A method for generating a custom spreadsheet, said method comprising transforming a portion

2   of a database into the custom spreadsheet, wherein the transforming includes determining

3   selected from the group consisting of determining whether to omit in the custom spreadsheet a

4   column that is in the portion, determining whether to add to the custom spreadsheet a column

5   that is not in the portion, and combinations thereof.

1   2. The method of claim 1, wherein the portion of the database comprises a view of the database.

1   3. The method of claim 1, wherein the transforming includes performing N functions F_1, F_2, ...,

2   F_N based on N rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N, respectively, wherein N is at least 1.

1   4. The method of claim 3, wherein the transforming includes executing a control program,

2   wherein executing the control program includes invoking N software modules M_1, M_2, ..., M_N

3   which respectively retrieve the rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N.

1   5. The method of claim 4, wherein the N modules retrieve the N rule sets based on a report

2   identifier that denotes a spreadsheet type.

1   6. The method of claim 4, further comprising returning the rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N to the control

2   program by the N modules, wherein executing the control program includes performing by the

3   control program the functions F_1, F_2, ..., F_N based on the rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N, respectively.

1   7. The method of claim 4, wherein invoking the N modules M_1, M_2, ..., M_N includes performing

2   by the modules M_1, M_2, ..., M_N the functions F_1, F_2, ..., F_N based on rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N,

3   respectively.

1   8. The method of claim 4, wherein the database is a LOTUS DOMINO database, wherein each

2   module is a LOTUS script, and wherein the custom spreadsheet is a LOTUS 1-2-3 spreadsheet.

1   9. The method of claim 3, wherein the N rule sets include at least one of range formatting rules,

2   column title rules, report header rules, report footer rules, totaling rules, translation rules,

3   translation rules, calculation rules, sheet rules, report naming rules, and report placement rules.

1   10. The method of claim 3, wherein the custom spreadsheet comprises a plurality of sheets and

2   wherein a first rule set of the N rule sets includes an integrative rule set that cuts across at least

3   two sheets of the plurality of sheets.

1   11. The method of claim 1, wherein determining whether to add to the custom spreadsheet a

2   column that is not in the portion includes determining whether to add to the custom spreadsheet a

3   column that is a calculated function of one or more columns that is in the portion.

1   12. A computer system for generating a custom spreadsheet, said computer system comprising

2   software adapted to transform a portion of a database into the custom spreadsheet, wherein to

3   transform includes to determine selected from the group consisting of to determine whether to

4   omit in the custom spreadsheet a column that is in the portion, to determine whether to add to the

5   custom spreadsheet a column that is not in the portion, and combinations thereof.

1   13. The computer system of claim 12, wherein the portion of the database comprises a view of

2   the database.

1   14. The computer system of claim 12, wherein to transform includes to perform N functions F_1,

2   F_2, ..., F_N based on N rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N, respectively, wherein N is at least 1.

1   15. The computer system of claim 14, wherein to transform includes to execute a control

2   program, wherein to execute the control program includes to invoke N software modules M_1, M_2,

3   ..., M_N which respectively retrieve the rule sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N.

1   16. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the N modules retrieve the N rule sets based on a

2   report identifier that denotes a spreadsheet type.

1   17. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the software is further adapted to return the rule

2   sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N to the control program by the N modules, wherein to execute the control

3   program includes to perform by the control program the functions F_1, F_2, ..., F_N based on the rule

4   sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N, respectively.

1   18. The computer system of claim 15, wherein to invoking the N modules M_1, M_2, ..., M_N

2   includes to performing by the modules M_1, M_2, ..., M_N the functions F_1, F_2, ..., F_N based on rule

3   sets R_1, R_2, ..., R_N, respectively.

1   19. The computer system of claim 15, wherein the database is a LOTUS DOMINO database,

2   wherein each script is a LOTUS script, and wherein the custom spreadsheet is a LOTUS 1-2-3

3   spreadsheet.

1   20. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the N rule sets include at least one of range

2   formatting rules, column title rules, report header rules, report footer rules, totaling rules,

3   translation rules, translation rules, calculation rules, sheet rules, report naming rules, and report

4   placement rules.

1   21. The computer system of claim 14, wherein the custom spreadsheet comprises a plurality of

2   sheets and wherein a first rule of the N rules includes an integrative rule that cuts across at least

3   two sheets of the plurality of sheets.

1 22. The computer system of claim 12, wherein to determine whether to add to the custom

2 spreadsheet a column that is not in the portion includes to determine whether to add to the

3 custom spreadsheet a column that is a calculated function of one or more columns that is in the

4 portion.

1   23. A computer program product, comprising a computer usable medium having a computer

2   readable code embodied therein, said computer readable code including software adapted to

3   transform a portion of a database into a custom spreadsheet, wherein to transform includes to

4   determine selected from the group consisting of to determine whether to omit in the custom

5   spreadsheet a column that is in the portion, to determine whether to add to the custom

6   spreadsheet a column that is not in the portion, and combinations thereof.